REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 13-22, 40-48, 52-61, and 79-84 are pending, with claims 1, 40, and 79-84 being independent. Claims 23-39 and 62-78 were cancelled in a previous amendment without waiver or prejudice due to a restriction requirement as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 10-12 and 49-51 are cancelled by this amendment without waiver or prejudice. Claims 1 and 40 have been amended, and claims 79-84 have been added by this amendment. No new matter is being added.

Claims 12, 18, 20, 21, 51, 57, 59, and 60 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Rejection Under Section 102

Claims 1-11, 13-17, 19, 22, 40-50, 52-56, 58, and 61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Evans, Shara ("Tunneling Through the Web") and by W. Townsley et al. ("Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol 'L2TP'"). Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 40 to integrate the allowable limitations of claims 12 and 51 (and intermediary dependent claims 10-11 and 49-50, respectively), thereby rendering moot the rejection.

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 12 and intervening claims 10 and 11. Similarly, claim 40 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 51 and intervening claims 49 and 50. In other words, amended claims 1 and 40 represent allowable claims 12 and 51, respectively, written in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 40 are in allowable form.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 40, and their respective dependent claims.

Allowable Claims

Allowable claims 18, 20, 21, 57, 59, and 60 remain pending, but now depend from allowable independent claims 1 and 40. As such, claims 18, 20, 21, 57, 59, and 60 are now in condition for allowance.

Moreover, new claims 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, and 84 integrate the features previously recited by allowable claims 18, 20, 21, 57, 59, and 60, respectively, without reciting the features of claims 10-12 and 49-51 that were integrated into claims 1 and 40. As such, new claims 79-84 also are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is an $800 check for excess claim fees. During prosecution of this application, please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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W. Karl Renner
Reg. No. 41,265

Thomas A. Rozylowicz
Reg. No. 50,620

Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

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